

35. Apparatus for reducing to a minimum the fluid-dynamic base drag of a bluff body moving through a fluid passing generally along said bluff body and creating, at the rear of the body, separated shear surfaces which define a low pressure wake having an outer wake perimeter, which bluff body has a substantially flat rear base surface with given height and width dimensions and a periphery of trailing edges, said apparatus comprising:

vortex generator means mounted adjacent to and forward of said trailing edges for generating counter-rotating stream-wise vortices in said fluid layer, which generators cause the separated shear surfaces to turn sharply inward thereby reducing the size of the low pressure wake, and

edge means coupled to said base surface and inset from said trailing edges for intercepting said separated shear surfaces at the outer perimeter of said low pressure wake, namely, at a distance behind said base surface of about 1/6th to 1/8th of said given height or width dimension, whichever is less.

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#### IN THE DRAWING

Provisionally and with reservation:

Cancel Figures 7 and Figures 9 through 13. A Letter to the Official Patent Draftsman is enclosed.

(Note to Examiner Patel from the undersigned:

Having only just obtained Power of Attorney, there was insufficient time to have my patent draftsman properly shade and prepare Figure 8 for presentation in finished form in this amendment. Also, I am asking for a Reconsideration concerning withdrawal of Figures 7 and 9 through 13 and such a request is submitted in more detail in the REMARKS Section hereinafter. After my Power of Attorney is on file, I will call you personally to see how best to proceed for the protection of the client and to advance the prosecution of this case. Thank you for your advance consideration of this matter.

Stanley R. Jones.)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Basford, William C.

Filing Date: June 8, 2001

Serial No.: 09/877,585

For:

**APPARATUS TO REDUCE BASE DRAG  
BEHIND BLUFF BODIES (Amended)**

Patent Examiner:  
Patel, Kiran B.

ART UNIT: 3612

March 20, 2003

Hallowell, Maine

Zip: 04347

**LETTER TO OFFICIAL DRAFTSMAN**

Dear Sir:

In the accompanying response, there is, inter alia, a Request for Reconsideration of a Restriction Requirement. The basis for the Request is that it was done while Applicant was lacking counsel. A generic claim by a Patent Attorney or Patent agent, would most likely been filed originally, making the Restriction less likely.

Meanwhile, in an effort to comply and to be fully responsive to the last Official Action, enclosed herewith is an enlarged draft original Figure 8 with proposed changes shown in red.

Since Applicant respectively requests that all of Applicant's Figures 1 through 13 remain in the application, this change is tentatively submitted simply as representative of the type that would be made by a competent Patent Draftsman. Such a draftsman is available; but, since the undersigned has only recently been given Power of Attorney there was insufficient time to engage the services of my draftsman.

This proposed change is merely representative, and of course, is subject to approval by the Examiner,

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley R. Jones

Registration No. 22,659

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON March 20, 2003

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

BY:

 (REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE)

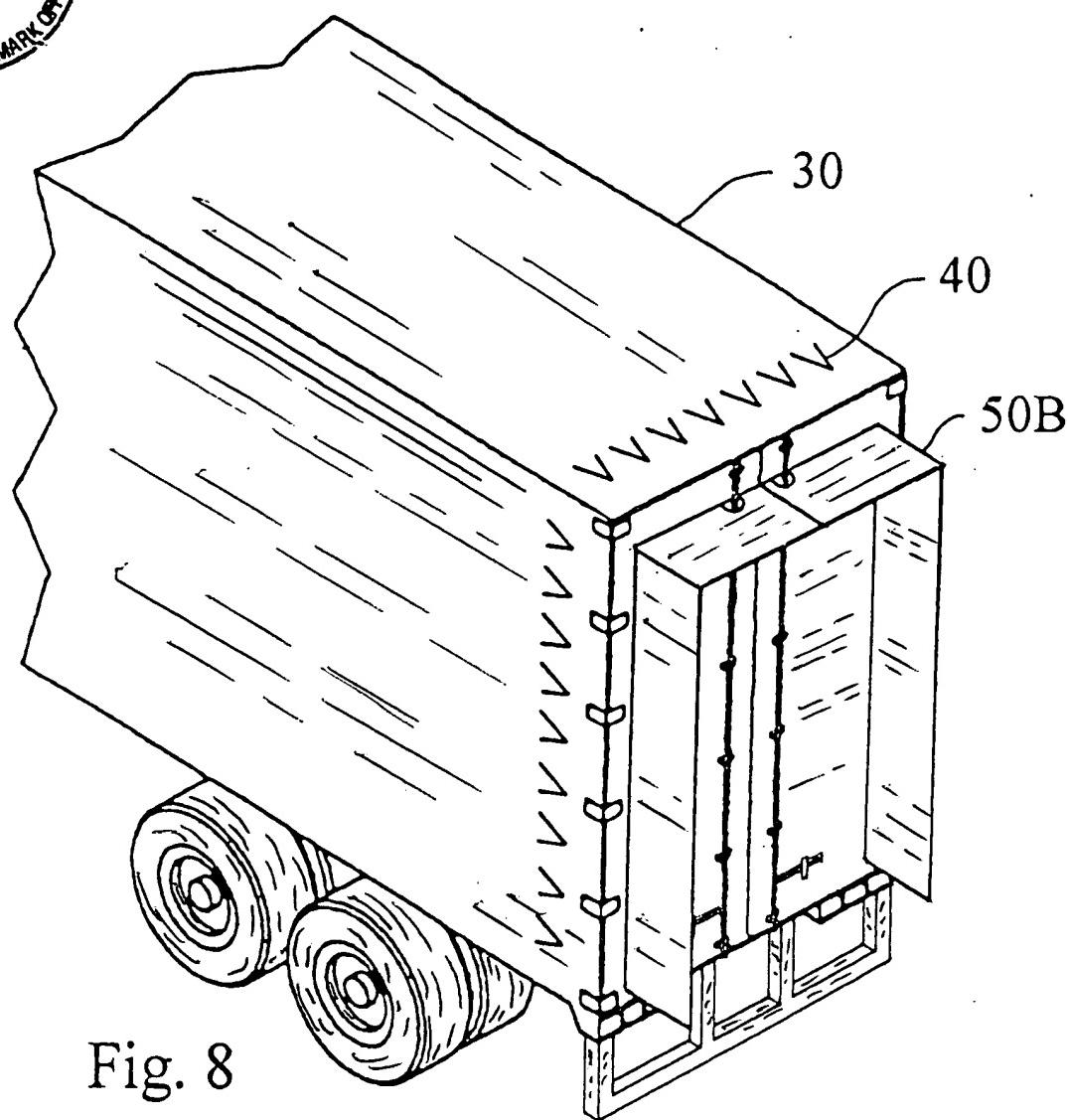


Fig. 8